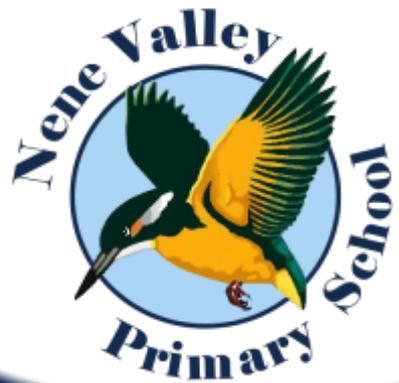


Success for All



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7th October 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Changes to Reception Collection Times – an update

Yesterday we sent a letter advising you of changes to collection times at the end of the school day for our Reception children. Whilst we appreciate that changing timings is not an ideal situation, we are asking for your support and understanding as we carefully balance managing the risks, keeping our children and families safe and meeting the emotional needs of our youngest children. This is not a decision we have rushed in to.

We have carefully considered a number of things before making the changes, and what may seem straightforward to an outsider is quite different in school when we are having to balance an exceptional number of challenges and compromises. Firstly, we have responded to parent feedback about the number of adults and congestion on the school site and the anxiety this was causing. We reflected that although parents were offered a 'window' that the majority were understandably arriving at the beginning of that slot so their children weren't upset if they weren't there. Whilst in school, class bubbles do not mix and the rear gate is in use by other class bubbles from 3.10pm.

Additionally, the end of the school day is very busy from an organisational point of view and it is important that we maintain our highest levels of supervision and support for the children. Support staff finish work at 3:30 and are not available to provide support. We have also noticed that since our lunchtime has reduced from 1 hour to 30 minutes each day, many of the children are extremely tired and are finding it more of a challenge to manage emotionally. The earlier finish time means there are three members of Reception staff to provide help when the children most need it.



We wanted to write as soon as a decision was made to give families sufficient time to make adjustments to their routines, work and childcare arrangements, wherever possible. However, we do recognise that for a small number of our families and despite your best efforts, the new collection times may not be achievable. We are asking for your support to accommodate the new times wherever possible, but if this is not possible, please get in touch with me by Friday and we can discuss an alternative 'back up plan'.

As always, we are doing our utmost to listen to what you need and thank you for your support.

Kind regards,

Mrs Carly Pearson
EYFS Leader

